

Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-07

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R 172014Z APR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

UNCLAS STATE 097910

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TOCY, AR

SUBJECT: R/V HERO CLEARANCE REQUEST, 5-28 JULY 1978

1. R/V HERO, A PUBLIC VESSEL OPERATED BY THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION IS PLANNING TO CONDUCT MARINE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH IN ARGENTINE TERRITORIAL WATERS. THE RESEARCH IS BEING SPONSORED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY. ITS PURPOSE IS TWOFOLD - A NITROGEN DIOXIDE STUDY OF THE ATMOSPHERE AND GEOLOGY STUDY OF THE SOUTH COAST OF ARGENTINA.

2. THE NITROGEN DIOXIDE STUDY WILL BE CONDUCTED BY DR. JOHN NOXON OF THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION. HE WILL DETERMINE THE VARIABILITY OF THE AMOUNT OF NO2 WITH LATITUDE IN THE VICINITY OF 50 DEGREES SOUTH LATITUDE IN ORDER TO COMPARE IT WITH SAMPLES TAKEN AT 50 DEGREES NORTH LATITUDE. THE AMOUNT OF NO2 IN THE STRATOSPHERE HAS A DIRECT BEARING ON THE PHOTO-CHEMICAL PRODUCTION OF OZONE. A SCANNING SPECTRO-
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PAGE 02 STATE 097910

METER WILL BE USED.

3. DR. WILLIAM ZINSMEISTER OF OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY WILL STUDY THE STRATIGRAPHY OF THE TERTIARY ROCK EXPOSED ON THE COAST OF PATAGONIA FROM RIO GRANDE TO COMODOR

RIVADAVIA. HE WILL COLLECT BOTTOM SAMPLES AND COMPARE

MOLLUSCAN FAUNAS WITH THE TERTIARY FAUNA COLLECTED ASHORE.
THE SPECIMENS COLLECTED WILL BE STUDIED IN RELATION TO
FAUNAS COLLECTED ON SEYMOUR ISLAND (ANTARCTICA) EARLIER
TO FURTHER UNDERSTAND THE PLATE TECTONICS OF THE REGION.
EQUIPMENT TO BE USED INCLUDES BOTTOM DREDGES, ROCK
HAMMERS, AND ZODIAC BOATS.

4. A CHARTLET IS BEING POUCHED WHICH SHOWS THE RESEARCH
AREA. AS NOTED ABOVE THE RESEARCH PARTY WILL GO ASHORE
WHEN OFFSHORE SAMPLING INDICATES THAT SHORE SAMPLES
WOULD BE USEFUL. PRE-SELECTION OF SITES IS NOT POSSIBLE.

5. TWO BERTHS ARE AVAILABLE FOR ARGENTINE PARTICIPANTS.
IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT SENOR CAMACHO OF THE UNIVERSITY
OF BUENOS AIRES HAS BEEN INVITED AND BECAUSE OF LIMITED
SPACE IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE IF HE WAS ONE OF THE OFFICIAL
PARTICIPANTS. ALL DATA RESULTS WILL BE FREELY SHARED.

6. HERO WILL DEPART USHUAIA ON 5 JULY AND ARRIVE AT
PUERTO BELGRANO ON 28 JULY AND REMAIN THERE THROUGHOUT
AUGUST FOR DRYDOCKING.

7. HERO IS 300 GROSS TONS, 125 FT. LONG AND HAS A 15 FT.
DRAFT. SHIP'S CAPTAIN IS PIETER LENIE, WITH A CREW OF
12 AND SCIENTIFIC PARTY OF 8. RADIO CALL SIGN IS WY 3918
AND SHIP MONITORS 2182 KHZ.
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PAGE 03 STATE 097910

8. ACTION: EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO SEEK PERMISSION FOR
R/V HERO TO CONDUCT RESEARCH IN ARGENTINE TERRITORIAL
WATERS DURING THE PERIOD 5-28 JULY 1978 AND FOR THE PORT
CALL AT PUERTO BELGRANO FOR 28 JULY - 1 SEPT. CHRISTOPHER

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